

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00  
INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00  
NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 ACDA-10  
TRSE-00 /080 W

-----100632 111830Z /44

O R 111730Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6286  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
DIA WASHDC  
AMEMBASSYLONDON  
USMISSION NATO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER  
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USNMR SHAPE BEL

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 NICOSIA 2110

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC USCINCEUR FOR POLAD USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PGOV, CY, US  
SUBJECT: CYPRIOT PRESS REACTION TO CLIFFORD PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: NICOSIA 2086 (DTG 101300Z AUG 77)

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE CLIFFORD'S PRESS  
CONFERENCE ON AUG 9 IN NICOSIA HAS HAD MAJOR IMPACT IN CYPRUS.  
ALL GREEK LANGUAGE MORNING DAILIES OF AUG 10 GAVE PROMINENT ATTEN-  
TION TO CONFERENCE IN RELATIVELY STRAIGHT REPORTING. BULK OF  
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EDITORIAL COMMENT APPEARS IN AUG 11 MORNING PAPER, BOTH TURKISH  
AND GREEK. GREEK LANGUAGE PRESS CONCENTRATED ON THREE ISSUES:  
CLIFFORD STATEMENTS ON (1) RECOGNITION AND (2) FAMAGUSTA, WHICH  
WERE RECEIVED FAVORABLY, AND (3) CONTINUED STRONG U.S. INTEREST  
IN HELPING FIND A SOLUTION TO CYPRUS PROBLEM, WHICH SPLIT EDITORIAL  
COMMENT ALONG IDEOLOGICAL LINES. TURKISH PRESS SINGLED OUT TWO  
ISSUES, CLIFFORD'S STATEMENTS ON (1) RECOGNITION AND (2) WHAT IT

INTERPRETED AS SECRET UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN CLIFFORD AND MAKARIOS FOR HARSH EDITORIAL TREATMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. ALL GREEK LANGUAGE DAILIES OF AUG 10 GAVE PROMINENCE, IN RELATIVELY STRAIGHT REPORTING, TO CLIFFORD NEWS CONFERENCE. PRO-MAKARIOS PHILELEFTHEROS CARRIED HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESS CONFERENCE IN ITS LEAD ITEM AND DEALT WITH CLIFFORD STATEMENT ON RECOGNITION. CONSERVATIVE SIMERINI RAN SIX-COLUMN LEAD ITEM ON BACK PAGE UNDER HEADLINE: "CLIFFORD: I AM AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE PARTIES - HE CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT PROGRESS WILL BE MADE IN 1977." PRO-WESTERN AGHON CARRIED THREE-COLUMN FRONT-PAGE STORY UNDER HEADING: "THE UNITED STATES WILL ALWAYS RECOGNIZE THE GOVERNMENT" AND RAN FULL TEXT OF NEWS CONFERENCE. COMMUNIST HARAVGHI SUMMARIZED WHAT IT CALLED "CYNICAL STATEMENT BY CLIFFORD" AS PART OF LEAD STORY ON FRONT PAGE DEALING WITH SOVIET ATTITUDE ON CYPRUS; PART OF HEADLINE READ: "THE UNITED STATES IS AGAINST THE U.N. RE-COURSE. CLIFFORD: CYPRUS SHOULD REMAIN IN THE FRAMEWORK OF BI-LATERAL RELATIONS." ANTI-AMERICAN TA NEA COVERED PRESS CONFERENCE IN STORY DEALING WITH TASSO PAPADOPOULOS' WARNING AGAINST COLONIZATION OF FAMAGUSTA AND COMMENTED THAT PURPOSE OF REVIVAL OF AMERICAN ACTIVITY IS TO UNDERMINE UPCOMING RECOURSE TO U.N. EXTREME RIGHTIST MAKHI CARRIED FRONT-PAGE FOUR-COLUMN STORY UNDER HEADING: "CLEAR STATEMENT BY THE UNITED STATES: WE WILL HELP YOU IF YOU WANT US TO. CLIFFORD: PRESIDENT CARTER CONTINUES TO BE INTERESTED IN CYPRUS." TURKISH LANGUAGE PRESS DID NOT PICK UP STORY UNTIL AUG 11.

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3. IN AUG 11 EDITORIAL COVERAGE, GREEK LANGUAGE PRESS COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON CLIFFORD'S STATEMENTS ON RECOGNITION AND FAMAGUSTA. SIMERINI SAID THAT THE U.S., U.K., AND FRANCE DID NOT EXPRESS ANY RESERVATIONS ABOUT RECOGNIZING GOC AS THE ONLY LAWFUL GOVERNMENT, AND COMMENTED THAT GOC SHOULD CALL ON THE EAST AND NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES TO REAFFIRM THEIR POSITION ON RECOGNITION. AGHON SAID ALL GREAT POWERS IN STATEMENTS BY THEIR REPRESENTATIVES HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO RECOGNIZE THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS AS IN THE PAST AND THAT THESE STATEMENTS ARE A SLAP IN THE FACE OF ANKARA. PHILELEFTHEROS CHARACTERIZED CLIFFORD'S STATEMENT ON FAMAGUSTA AS A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION AND AS OPPOSITION TO TURKISH PLANS, AND NOTED THAT CLIFFORD'S STATEMENT DID NOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY OF EVENTUAL FREEDOM OF CHOICE FOR DISPLACED PERSONS TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES.

4. GREEK LANGUAGE PAPERS SPLIT SHARPLY ALONG IDEOLOGICAL LINES IN EDITORIAL TREATMENT OF CLIFFORD'S REAFFIRMATION OF CONTINUED STRONG U.S. INTEREST IN HELPING TO FIND A SOLUTION TO CYPRUS PROBLEM. TA NEA SAID IT APPEARED MR. CLIFFORD REGARDED HIS MISSION AS THE FIRST AND BEST PROCESS FOR FINDING A SOLUTION; THIS WAS DIAMETRICALLY

CONTRARY TO MAKARIOS' POSITION OF STRESSING RECOURSE TO THE U.N. HARAVGHI SAID PRESIDENT CARTER'S ENVOY USED ALL HIS DIPLOMATIC ABILITY TO SAY THAT IN ESSENCE THE PROBLEM WAS IN THE FIRM HANDS OF THE U.S. AND U.N. SHOULD REMAIN IN THE BACKGROUND. CLIFFORD'S STATEMENTS BETRAYED THE UNDISGUISED INTENTION OF THE U.S. TO STRANGLE CYPRUS RIGHTS AND SACRIFICE THEM TO THE AGGRESSIVE STRATEGY OF NATO. BOTH THESE PAPERS COMPARED U.S. POSITION UNFAVORABLY TO SOVIET POSITION, WHICH THEY SAID WAS CRYSTAL CLEAR AND IDENTICAL TO THE LINE OF STRUGGLE OF THE DECEASED LEADER.

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O R 111730Z AUG 77

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5. ON THE OTHER HAND, AGHON SAID MR. CLIFFORD WAS ONE OF MOST EMINENT STATESMEN OF THE U.S. WITH ENORMOUS INFLUENCE AND AUTHORITY, AND WAS HELD IN HIGH REGARD AND ESTEEM BY MAKARIOS. PAPER SAID THAT A FEW HOURS BEFORE HIS DEATH, ARCHBISHOP CONFIDED TO CYPRIOT JOURNALIST THAT HE PINNED HOPES ON CLIFFORD FOR DECENT AND JUST SETTLEMENT OF CYPRUS PROBLEM. AGHON ABSOLUTELY

AGREED WITH THAT POSITION, AND SAID U.S. COULD FORCE TURKEY TO SHOW PRUDENCE, MODERATION, AND CONCILIATION. SIMERINI WORRIED THAT WESTERN INTEREST IN CYPRUS WAS BEGINNING TO DIMINISH DANGEROUSLY BUT NOTED THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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CLIFFORD HAD REAFFIRMED U.S. INTEREST IN A JUST SOLUTION, AND EXPRESSED PERPLEXITY AS TO WHY CYPRIOTS INSISTED THAT CLIFFORD WAS IMPERIALIST WHO HAD NO BUSINESS IN CYPRUS.

6. ALL TURKISH DAILIES OF AUG 11 REPORTED AND EDITORIALIZED ON DENKTASH'S REACTION TO CLIFFORD PRESS CONFERENCE. DENKTASH WAS REPORTED AS SAYING ON AUG 10, "I HAVE READ CAREFULLY THE PRESS CONFERENCE OF MR. CLIFFORD, AND HAVE SUFFERED GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT. IT SEEMS THAT MAKARIOS WAS GIVEN SECRET PROMISES IN OUR ABSENCE, AND THAT MR. CLIFFORD HAS HAD SECRET CONTACTS....THESE ARE THINGS THAT GRIEVE US, AND FORCE US TO BE AFRAID OF U.S. INTEREST IN CYPRUS....WE ARE DETERMINED NOT TO GIVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO THE BIG NATIONS TO REPEAT THEIR UGLY AND SHAMEFUL CRETAN GAMES IN CYPRUS. WE HAVE FAITH THAT WE SHALL BE HELPED BY THE TURKISH NATION." THE RULING NATIONAL UNITY PARTY AND OTHER TURKISH CYPRIOT ORGANIZATIONS WERE REPORTED AS ISSUING PRESS STATEMENTS HIGHLY CRITICAL OF U.S. AND BRITISH POSITION ON RECOGNITION ISSUE. PRO-DENKTASH DAILY ZAMAN, IN EDITORIAL ENTITLED "AMERICA'S UGLY GAME," SAID, "THE THINGS THAT (CLIFFORD) SAID AT HIS PRESS CONFERENCE DEGRADES THE ROLE AND THE POSITION OF THE U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL. IT IS BEING REVEALED THAT MR. CLIFFORD AND MAKARIOS WERE IN CONSTANT CONTACT AND THAT THEY WERE MAKING MUTUAL COMMITMENTS AS REGARDS THE VIENNA TALKS....MR. CLIFFORD...DESCRIBED WHAT KIND OF A CYPRUS MAKARIOS WANTED AND...DECLARED THAT... THE UNITED STATES WOULD LIKE TO SEE A SIMILAR CYPRUS. THIS STRESSES THE PRO-GREEK POLICY OF MR. CLIFFORD AND THE PRESIDENT HE REPRESENTS...WE ARE NOT IN NEED OF U.S. TRUSTEESHIP."

CRAWFORD

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## Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009